

Serial No.: 09/880,198

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1, 3, and 4.

Please withdraw from consideration claims 9 - 11.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method of loading cartons in a packaging machine, comprising:

providing a plurality of cartons, each of said plurality of cartons comprising an end opening having a width less than a pitch of flight bars of the packaging machine;

detachably affixing the plurality of cartons to one another, such that the combined end opening width of the detachably affixed cartons are equal to the pitch of the packaging machine;

facilitating placement of the plurality of detachably affixed cartons between the flight bars,

wherein said plurality of detachably affixed cartons are provided in a collapsed condition prior to being placed in the packaging machine, such that they are manipulated by the packaging machine for placement between the flight bars as if they are a unitary carton; and

detaching the plurality of cartons from one another after the plurality of cartons have been loaded.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said plurality of cartons have end openings of equal width.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the plurality of cartons are detachably affixed to one another by an adhesive.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of cartons are detachably affixed to one another by an adhesive.

9. (Withdrawn)

10. (Withdrawn)

11. (Withdrawn)